



Milwaukee Community Justice Council

Working collaboratively to ensure a fair, efficient, and effective justice system
that enhances public safety and quality of life in our community.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 16 2014
Milwaukee County Courthouse, Room 609

PRESENT: Jeffrey Kremers, John Chisholm, Tom Reed, Nate Holton, Kerri McKenzie, Richard Schmidt, Niel Thoreson, Joel Plant, Kit Murphy McNally, Colleen Foley, Chris Abele, Carmella Delucia, Willie Johnson, Héctor Colón, Stan Stojkovic, and Michelle Naples

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

I. Convene and Updates

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Jeffrey Kremers)

The Executive Committee approved the meetings minutes from June 23, 2014.

III. Coordinator Updates (All)

The group discussed the Council's work on establishing a framework for measuring and tracking recidivism. A memo on the Council's progress was sent to the County Comptroller's office as a part of the continuing response to the County Comptroller's recommendations to the Council as they relate to tracking recidivism.

IV. Update on Juvenile Issues (Héctor Colón)

Héctor Colón updated the group on juvenile justice reform. The system is aggressively pursuing system improvements that are evidence-based and person-centered through the use of risk assessments, behavior response grids, evidence-based analysis of service providers, and the use of the least restrictive environment based on risk assessments. Colón presented a PowerPoint and went over examples of other jurisdictions who participated in alternative detention facilities. Those who participated saw a decrease in violent crime arrests among juveniles.

The system continues to look at ways to address the small group of repeat offenders who are disproportionately responsible for juvenile crime. Colón encouraged the Council to work together to address juvenile issues as they emerge and to make policy decisions based on larger system issues and trends.

V. Court Appearance Video Conferencing (Richard Schmidt)

Richard Schmidt noted that there were quite a few defendants with court dates who are coming from outside the county that do not have access to video conferencing. He recommended using

video conferencing for those individuals coming from state prisons when appropriate. Jeffrey Kremers noted that judges are reminded to use it when appropriate, particularly when involving defendants coming from outside of Milwaukee County. The Committee moved to refer the issue to the Jail and Huber Committee for further study.

VI. CJC Partnership with UWM (Stan Stojkovic)

Stan Stojkovic informed the group that UW-Milwaukee would be a valuable resource to the existing efforts of the Council and his department has faculty with expertise on program evaluation, trauma informed care, addiction, mental health research, and other important areas. He suggested that the Council create requests for assistance from UW-Milwaukee so that a continued discussion can take place about what the department can provide. He talked about valuable resources such as the CUIR – Center for Urban Initiatives and Research who could possibly do an evaluation for little to no cost on some of the Council’s current and future initiatives.

III. Other Business

Niel Thoreson provided an update from DOC on the potential impact of the sex offender ordinance being considered by the City of Milwaukee. The biggest impact would be in the use of supervised living facilities and there could be an increase in the number of sex offenders who are homeless or using a fake address. Joel Plant said that MPD is concerned because they’d rather know where the sex offenders are located and the ordinance may complicate that. He also suggested that a state-level solution to the situation would be ideal.

IV. Adjourn